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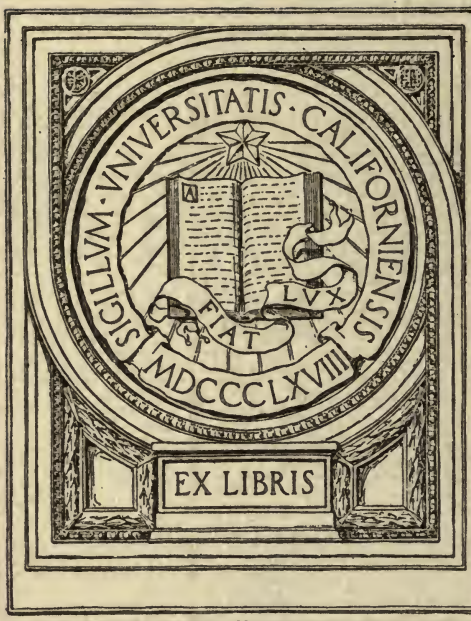
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CALENDAR OF THE GODS

IN CHINA

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Calendar of the Gods

IN CHINA

BY

Rev. TIMOTHY RICHARD, LITT. D.

SHANGHAI:
METHODIST PUBLISHING HOUSE
1906

PREFATORY NOTE.

This Calendar of the Chinese gods was prepared during an enforced absence in Japan in the summer of 1900. But owing to the pressure of other duties it was not published as I wished to improve it. However, the pressure of other business continued. Therefore, though imperfect its publication may save others from going needlessly over the same ground and may be of some aid to a right attitude towards the millions who now worship many gods because they have not an opportunity of knowing anything better. So I send it forth.

TIMOTHY RICHARD.

SHANGHAI, November, 1906.

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3.—Some of the leading gods.

Among the *Confucian* gods the chief are:—Heaven, Earth, Ancestors, the god of agriculture, the god of rain, Confucius and Kwanti, the god of war.

Among the *Buddhist* gods the chief are:—Sakyamuni, Amitabha, the Great Physician, Kwanyin, the goddess of Mercy, Wen Shu Pu Sa in Shansi, Pu Hien Pu Sa in Szechuen, Ti Tsang Pu Sa in Anhui, Wei To, the god at the entrance of every Buddhist temple; the patriarchs Maming, and Lung Shu, the two chief founders of the new Buddhism in India, and Ta Mo, the first and only Indian patriarch who came and lived and died in China; also Yama (Judge Yenlo, Plato's Minos) judge of the dead, brought through India and the Hindoo goddess Durga. The Buddhist Patriarchs were:

1.	Indian	Maha Kashiapa.	18.	Indian	Sangkayasheta.
2.	,,	Ananda.	19.	,,	Kumarada.
3.	,,	Shangnavasu.	20.	,,	Jayata.
4.	,,	Upagupta.	21.	,,	Vasubandu.
5.	,,	Drikata.	22.	,,	Manura.
6.	,,	Michaka.	23.	,,	Haklena.
7.	,,	Vasumitra.	24.	,,	Singhalaputra.
8.	,,	Buddhanandi.	25.	,,	Basiasita.
9.	,,	Buddhamitra.	26.	,,	Putnomita.
10.	,,	Parshva.	27.	,,	Pradjnatara.
11.	,,	Punayadja.	28.	,,	Bodhidharma.
12.	,,	Ashvagosha.	29.	Chinese	Hwei k'o.
13.	,,	Kapimara.	30.	,,	Seng-tsan.
14.	,,	Nagarjuna.	31.	,,	Tau-sin.
15.	,,	Kanadeva.	32.	,,	Hung-jin.
16.	,,	Rahulata.	33.	,,	Hwai-nêng.
17.	,,	Sanghanandi.			

Among the *Taoist* gods the Chief are:—Yu Hwang Shangti, Tai Shang Lao Kün, Shiwangmu, Laotsz, Chwangtz, Chang Tao Ling (the first Taoist Pope), Lü Tung Pin, Kiu Chang Chun, Tien How, (the sailors' goddess) and Ching Hwang, the city god.

The Eight Immortals

1. Chung Li Chun 鍾離春 4th cent., B. C. Chief of the eight Immortals. Has like No. 3 much in common with Christianity.
2. Chang Kwo 張果 7th and 8th A. D. Sought for by the Empress Wu, whose capital was Tai Yuenfu, Shansi.
3. Lü Yen 呂喦 also called 呂祖, 洞賓 and 純陽子 born about A.D., 750. Got a Chin Shih degree. Full of mystic teaching most akin to Christianity.
4. Ts'ao Kuo Chiu 曹國舅 lived about 9th or 10th century.
5. Li Tieh Kwai 李鐵拐 A beggar leaning on an iron staff summoned by Lau tsz to a conference on high.
6. Han Hsiang 韓湘 9th century. A nephew of the great Han Yu, a native of Honan.
7. Lan Tsai Ho 藍采和 A woman with one foot bare. Sent for by Empress Wu.
8. Ho Hsien Ku 何仙姑 7th century, A. D. The daughter of a shopkeeper in Hunan who gained the peach of immortality.

4.—Idolatry and Ancient forces of Nature, a stage in human development.

This small Calendar gives a fairly accurate picture of the mental, moral and spiritual condition of China to-day. It also illustrates a very interesting phase in human development, when facts and fancies were blended uncritically together. We also uncritically often forget that at the period when this process of deification commenced, the gap between conceptions of God and man was much less than now. Then it was only the difference between a god (small g) and man. The possibilities of men and gods had not been mapped out like our modern charts into finite and infinite. The god then was thought much less, and the clever man then was thought much greater than now.

In those days the cry was for wonderful tales of the gods, some of them being vaguely the forces of nature, and the wonderful tales were supplied without limit, many of

them of men and of gods who never existed even as heroic men. Gradually there evolved a supreme god whether Jupiter, Brahman, or Shangti, with numerous subordinate gods. These tales were recited with improvement from year to year as their birthday festivals came round. All such nations as continued to believe these mythical stories gradually degenerated while those who sought truth prospered. In course of time myths were discovered to be not good feeding—only chaff. Since then a great cry has arisen round the world for truth. The winnowing fan has been applied and the chaff is being blown away and only the grains of truth remain for modern cultivation. They alone are found nourishing.

5.—Monotheism and the Modern Forces of Nature.

Instead of annual recitals of the deeds of the gods, Monotheists established the Sabbath when regular teaching was given every seventh day. Thus truth gained strength over error. Modern educators give instruction daily and the result is that more truth is taught in modern religion than ever before.

Those who seek truth have found that instead of the empty myths of the gods there are the real fairy tales of science, whereby the one living and true God gives the treasures of the earth which are inexhaustible and the forces of nature which are infinite to the control of earnest students who carry out God's processes of love, so that what the Chinese were in the habit of attributing to gods alone are being performed by well-informed men—the followers of the One God to-day!

The difference between present enlightened Christianity and present Chinese religions generally is like the difference which exists between God and gods, between fact and fancies, between men and dolls, and between life and death. But it is unwise to ridicule Chinese idolatry and superstition, for that will arouse anger and riots. The teaching should be constructive rather than destructive. When they begin to see pure enlightened Christianity, the Chinese will flock to our God and Saviour as eagerly as they flock after our steam and electricity!

6.—The Relation of Religion and Morality to Human Progress

All the great religions: Christianity, Mohammedanism, Judaism, Confucianism, Buddhism and Taoism, with the exception of Hinduism, perhaps makes character the chief test of progress, while Hinduism and to some extent Confucianism and other religions dwell on superhuman force, superhuman wisdom and superhuman skill as the model and inspiration to all human progress.

What is moral character? The Mohammedan says it is loyalty to one God and Mohammed and one book the Koran. The reward is heaven and the penalty hell. The Confucian says it is loyalty to the ancestral sages of China as expressed in the Confucian classics. The reward is mainly the respect of good Chinamen in this life, the penalty is the disrespect of the good men of China and some vague rewards and punishments after death. The Buddhist says it consists in entire abstinence from any meat from family life and even from world affairs altogether. The reward is nirvana, paradise, Buddhahood. The penalty is an infinite round of transmigra tion through hell and all the sorrows of all forms of existence. The Hindu says it is preservation of caste, no intermarriage, no eating together, no fellowship, but strict observance of out-ward ceremonies, not what most nations consider virtue that is to be cultivated. The reward is preservation of caste and final promotion to god-head. The punishment is descent in the road of transmigration, loss of caste, and an excommunicative system surpassing that of Christianity in the middle ages. The Taoist says character is in conformity to *tao*, the eternal unchanging supreme law of the universe. The reward is to become all-wise, omnipotent and immortal like the gods. The punishment is to be at the mercy of the forces of the universe without ability to use them for good or to avoid them in danger.

Some of the leading characteristics of Chinese religions may be also stated thus:—

In teaching the art of government and recording actual facts with names of places, persons and dates, the Confucianists take the lead and are the freest from fancies. Though their teaching is most excellent in collective ethics it, however, does not give the highest place to self-sacrifice for the good of others.

In teaching the great theory of transmigration which makes character the condition of advancement or retrogression in the scale of existence, the Buddhists take the lead. Although Buddhism adds a series of imaginary hells below mundane existence and a series of beautiful realms of the blessed above mundane existence, it still teaches that the highest attainment is reached by being one with the One Mind which is supreme over all and in all, yet without sin, or lawlessness. Self-sacrifice is the highest ethical virtue, fully endorsing the highest Christian doctrine. It is a greater force for personal religion than Confucianism.

In teaching the secret laws of Nature (tao) by which men can attain immortality through physical unlimited skill in controlling all the forces of nature and in warding off all evil, more than in moral and spiritual means, the Taoist take the lead. Hence a very large use of charms of all kinds forestalling the mystic influence of mediæval Christianity as well as Christian science and the faith healing of modern days!

Confucianism insists on not forgetting the founders of civilization. Buddhism insists that this life is only a small part of human existence. Taoism insists that there is a Divine Law pervading the universe and controlling life and death.

One of the latest news of morality and religion is the following:—

WHAT IS MORALITY? Conformity to the general opinion or will of the many.

How are we to find out the will of the many? By acquainting ourselves with them, the views of a clan, of a nation, of a world. This reveals the fact that what some taboo as highly improper, others approve as perfectly proper, in manners and customs, in public and private. Sociology abounds with countless examples of this. Modern knowledge changes public opinion, which, in its turn, changes the standards of morality.

WHAT IS RELIGION? Conformity to the will of the superhuman. How are we to find it out? By acquainting ourselves with the best that is known of the superhuman locally, nationally and universally. This also reveals the conflicting views of men concerning God. Comparative religion abounds with countless instances of diversity of

opinion. As these public opinions are compared, conscience, the best voice of God in man, chooses the highest just as the flame flies upwards. This, in its turn, becomes a universal ideal law-giver to legislate for the good of mankind as a whole. Thus religion and morality are blended together for the uplifting of humanity from the mere arbitrary will of any one man or race to the universal most perfect character of all the gods the Supreme over all who is both love and justice!

The great mission, game, or joy of life of good men and women is to improve the strange views of mankind about religion and morality from age to age, law-breaking when it is local and partial, and law-making when they fully conform to the perfect ideal of helpmeets which God intended them to be by their creation. This applies alike to individual men and women and to vast empires. Friendly obligations cease when one party fails to be a helpmeet, or when it monopolises privileges without regard to the welfare of others. The "open door" of good will to all on equal terms, alone can promote private harmony or universal peace. The careful reader will see here a new solution for many modern problems and amongst them one way of delivering the hopeless and the needless poor by stamping out monopoly of city land and all "corners" by the few at the expense of the many just as we ruthlessly stamp out piracy and highway robbery.

How one man may convert million followers from polytheism to monotheism and from low monotheism to the highest known in morality and religion to-day is shown in the author's book on the subject.

7.—Fasting and Baptism.

The wonderfully widespread doctrine of transmigration supposed to be directed under Minos (Yenlo) the king of Hades and his ten assistant judges, makes the believers feel that by eating flesh they may be eating someone who was formerly a human being, possibly a friend, a relative, or even an ancestor, therefore the idea fills the mind with horror. This idea nourished for thousands of years has produced a general public opinion among polytheists in Asia, that to be in earnest about religion one must give up meat, if not altogether, at least on holidays and often twice a month at new moon and full moon.

The word vegetarian is too often used by some as a disparaging term for the non-Christian religious man, whereas in reality these are the most devout and sincerest people in the land—the worthy to whom Christ commanded his disciples to preach the gospel first.

It is also found by experience that one convert from this class of men is worth 20 from the other classes, for in addition to their vegetarianism a large number of them have secretly imbibed much of the mystic teaching of Christianity which the bigotted persecuting Confucianists would not tolerate. The Christian truth brought to China by the Mahayana Buddhism, by Nestorians and by early Catholics is found deeply imbibed in their secret teaching. It only needs the sympathetic spiritual eye to see it under a heathen garb.

Confucianism and Buddhism alike in common with Christianity dwell on the necessity of bathing before worship so as to have an outward fitting expression of the cleansing of the heart in approaching the super-human. There is, however, one very marked difference between the Christian and non-Christian rite. In the Christian baptism the ceremony is only performed once indicating change of allegiance—a turning away forever from dead idols to the service of the living God, while in the non-Christian rite the worshippers bathe themselves afresh before each act of solemn worship.

8.—Statistics.

It is amazing to find still in the statistics of the religions of the world, given by eminent statisticians in Europe and America, that Buddhism has 500 million followers while the followers of Confucianism and Taoism are altogether ignored. Although the Chinese are partial believers in all the three religions—Confucianism, Buddhism and Taoism, the followers of all the three combined do not amount to more than about 400 millions for in China between 20 and 30 millions of the Chinese are Mohammedans, while the Japanese follow Shintoism, a sort of Japanese hero worship as numerous in Japan. While it is impossible to say how many followers there are of each of the three religions in China it is certain that the most numerous are Confucianist, and the least numerous are the Taoists, therefore the Buddhists only occupy the second place in China. As an estimate the ordinary statistics should be corrected and the following would be nearer the truth :—

MONOTHEISTS.

Christianity			
Protestants	166 millions		
Roman Catholics	272 „		
Greek Catholics and Eastern .	120 „	558 millions	
Mohammedans	216 „	216 „	
Jews	11 „	11 „	
		785 „	785

POLYTHEISTS.

Confucian, Buddhism, Taoism, Shintoism	combined	425 millions	
Hinduism	207 „	....	632
Uncivilized			83
Total population of the world			1,500 millions.

Christians in China,
Protestants (1902) 113,000
Roman Catholics, (1901) 721,00

Statistics of Principal Buddhist Temples in China (from 畿學知津 pub. in 1826)

Province	1 寺	2 菴	3 廟	4 院	5 觀	6 堂	7 宮	8 閣	9 殿	Total
1.—Kiangsu	127	20	8	1	—	—	—	—	3	159
2.—Shantung	11	3	10	4	—	—	—	—	1	29
3.—Chihli	71	10	10	8	—	2	—	—	—	101
4.—Chehkiang	79	9	—	1	1	—	—	—	—	90
5.—Anhui	19	15	3	4	—	—	—	—	—	41
6.—Fukien	29	1	3	1	1	—	—	—	—	35
7.—Hupei	33	—	22	—	4	—	1	—	—	60
8.—Szechuen	19	8	28	2	5	—	5	—	—	67
9.—Kiangsi	73	22	8	—	—	—	1	1	2	107
10.—Kwangsi	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2
11.—Kwangtung	53	16	7	4	1	6	—	1	—	88
12.—Hunan	28	13	2	4	—	—	1	1	—	49
13.—Kweichow	53	16	7	4	1	6	—	1	—	88
14.—Yunan	66	12	3	2	5	—	—	10	—	98
15.—Shensi	35	12	14	—	2	1	9	1	—	74
16.—Honan	20	4	13	—	2	1	—	—	—	40
17.—Shansi	32	3	12	4	—	3	—	—	—	54
Kansu perhaps is included in Shensi	750	164	150	39	22	19	17	15	6	1182

The census of Canton in 1895 gives there 553 temples, great and small, *i. e.*, one for every 903 of the inhabitants.

Timothy Richard.

Shanghai, November, 1906.

CHINESE RELIGIOUS CALENDAR.

FIRST MOON.

In this moon the Han dynasty worshipped Heaven.

DAY.

1. 彌勒會 Festival of Maitreya Buddha who became incarnate after Shihkiamuni and is supposed by some to be the nearest approach among the Buddhist gods to Jesus Christ.
2. 寶勝佛生 Birthday of the Precious Victory Buddha.
   車大元帥誕 Chê Ta Yüan Shuai, a celesteal warrior.
3. 萬神都會 An all Saint's day.
   孫眞人誕 A Taoist saint, Sun, who was a General of the 齊國 'Chi Kuo.
4. 接神 Day of receiving back the gods from heaven (Foochow).
5. 大慈生 The great merciful goddess Kwanyin's birthday (Avalokiteshvara) See 2. m. 9.
6. 定光佛誕 The birthday of Buddha of fixed light same as 燃燈佛 (Dipamkara).
7. 人日 The day on which man first appeared.
   五殿閻羅王誕 President of the 5th Court of Hades, 包拯 Pao ching.
9. 玉帝生 Birthday of the chief Taoist god who is said to be the son of the King of glorious Paradise 光嚴妙樂國.
   朝三元 Day for the worship of the three original gods (Taoist). See 15th.

DAY.

10. 五方 and 五土神誕 The gods of the five Chinese cardinal points, north, south, east, west and centre. They have each a festival on the 10th of the five first months.

13. 祝九宮貴神 Sacrifice to the gods of the Nine Palaces in the Tang dynasty.

佐聖司命誕 Guardian of Goodness and Life. See 4 m. 19.

15. 天目山 Birthday of Chang Tao-ling the first Taoist pope. See 9 m. 19.

聖母降 Birthday of the Holy mother of the North.

上元 First of three festivals to 三元: evening called 元宵 Yuen Hsiao. See 9th.

臨水夫人誕 The birthday of the Taoist midwife, goddess of children in Foochow.

祐聖眞君誕 The birthday of 茅盈 Mao Ying. He became a Taoist saint under this title.

19. 葴濟生 The Taoist saint Wei Chi.

20. 善才童子誕 The birthday of the two children who stand in the presence of Kwan Yin.

28. 保壽候誕 Birthday of the Earl of long life.

29. 享先農 Sacrifice to the Earth established in the Tang dynasty.

SECOND MOON.

In this moon the Earth has been worshipped down the ages as a god. On the first 丁 day Confucius is sacrificed to.

DAY.

1. 勾陳誕 Birthday of the god of the constellation Kow Chên, one of 六爻 Liu yao heroes of the Yin dynasty whose posthumous title is 孫伯.

   初殿泰廣王誕 The birthday of the president of the first court of Hades where the dead are judged.

2. 土地誕 The birthday of the local god.

   財神誕 The birthday of the god of wealth in Foochow.

   孟子生 Mencius' birthday.

   泗水神 Sacrifice to the god of river Sze in Shantung.

3. 文昌帝君 The birthday of the god of literature, canonized in the Ming dynasty by King-ti (1450-1456). See 7 m. 7.

6. 東岳神誕 Birthday of the god of the Eastern Mountain, Taishan in Shantung. 武王 King Wu, at the begining of the ancient illustrious Chow dynasty honoured with this title one of his generals 黃飛虎 Huang fei-hu who died in battle and who thus is one of the gods of the five mountains of China 五岳神. See 3 m. 18; 5 m. 12; 8 m. 10; 10 m. 26; 12 m. 15.

7. 張顯王誕 The birth of the god Changhsien who during the Tang dynasty was mandarin of 安祿 Anlu and was murdered by rebels.

8. 祀大社 Sacrifice to the Spirits of the land and grain, one's country; established in the Han dynasty.

   祠星 Sacrifice to 46 stars, the gods of the Sun, Moon and Stars; common in the Sui and Tang dynasties (589-906).

   釋迦佛生 Shihkiamuni's birthday. See 4 m. 8.

DAY.

張王生辰 Birthday of King Chang, Taoist priest of Ho mountain.

8. 六祖受戒 6th Buddhist Patriarch ordained.

9. 白衣現 The white robed Kwan Yin appeared. See 1 m. 5; 2 m. 19.

10. 長生降 Birthday of the Taoist god of long life.

五方誕 The second of the five cardinal deity's birthday. See 1 m. 10.

12. 南華眞人 The Taoist Chuangtsze canonized A.D. 742.

福德土地公誕 A god of the region of virtue and happiness.

百花生日 Birthday of flowers.

13. 祠青帝 Worship of the Taoist Dark god, set up in the Sung dynasty in 1147.

洪聖誕 Birthday of Hung Sheng, a god of the South Sea.

眞君生 The Taoist saint Kwoh's birth.

14. 閭邱仙 The Taoist Lü Kiu became immortal.

15. 釋迦涅盤 Shihkiamuni died.

太上老君誕 Lao tsze's birthday.

岳飛元師誕 Birthday of General Yo fei of the Sung dynasty.

17. 二仙飛昇 Ascension of two Taoist saints.

18. 正陽昇仙 The Taoist saint Ching Yang became immortal.

四段王官王誕 The birthday of the presiding judge of the 4th Court of Hades.

19. 觀音生日 Kwan Yin's birthday. First born as 3rd *son* of the King of 孤竹國 and second time as 3rd *daughter* of the King of 北闕國. See 1 m. 5.

20. 南郊合祭 Sacrifice to Heaven and to Earth, together set up in the Tang dynasty, A.D. 742.

蘇子油生 Su Tung Po's brother, Tzu-yiu's birthday. He wrote in praise of the 18 arhats (Lohans) and obtained their images.

保德眞君降 The Taoist saint Paoteh's birthday, also on 23rd.

水母娘娘誕 The godess of waters.

DAY.

22. 祭天 Sacrifice to Heaven in the Han dynasty A.D. 56.
普賢菩薩誕 The birthday of the Buddhist saint Pu Hien (Buddha-bhadra or Samanta Bhadra). See 4 m. 21.

22. 馬元帥誕 The birthday of General Ma, one of the 4 Prime-ministers of Yü Huang, the chief god of the Taoists.
祭馬神 Sacrifice to the god of horses in the Ming dynasty. See 8th m. 28.

23. 觀西閣畫圖 In 1041 the Emperor got the inside walls of one of his palaces painted with scenes from history and the ministers were admitted to see them. See 23.

25. 禪祭梁陰 Sacrifice to Earth at Liang Yin in the Han dynasty A.D. 56.
玄天聖父誕 The birthday of the Taoist King of Pure Joy country (God of Heaven) whose queen is called 善勝夫人 the Virtuous Lady Conqueror, also called of starry dwelling 星處 (Magadha). See 3 m. 3.

26. 徐眞人生 Taoist saint Sü's birthday.

28. 圖畫凌煙 A.D. 643, famous men were painted on the walls of one of the imperial palaces. See 23.

29. 天妃昇化 The Empress of Heaven, otherwise called 天后, became one of the immortals. She was 6th daughter of a small sub-district mandarin named Liu Yuen in Foochow, born in A.D. 979. She is largely worshipped by southern sailors and is supposed to appear often in red robes. See 3 m. 23.
聖母元君降 The Eternal Holy Mother (Taoist) became incarnate.

THIRD MOON.

In this moon sacrifices are offered at the graves.
It has been so from ancient times.

DAY.

1. 二殿楚江王誕 The birthday of the judge of the second Court of Hades.
2. 陸修靚 Taoist saint Luh Siu-ching's birthday.
3. 祓除禳浴 Bathing or baptism day to wash away all evils, a custom of the Chow dynasty long before Confucius.

玄天上帝誕. See 2 m. 25.

祭先蠶 Sacrifice to the discoverer or inventor of silk, in the Sui dynasty (A.D. 589-618). The Empress took 12 ladies with her to a place three li north of the city and worshipped there.

眞武會 The Taoist saint Chin Woo's festival, born A.D. 589. He was born from his mother's side as Eve from Adam's rib. Stars appeared in the heavens and flowers sprang up on the earth with unusual fragrance. Light shone from his body and the soil was changed into gold and precious stones.

公傾聽講 In 1446 the heroic (?) Commander in Chief; dukes, marquises and earls to the number of about 20 petitioned:—We are only ignorant soldiers and do not understand literature, will your Majesty appoint a day when we might attend the National College and hear the lectures? The 3rd day of the 3rd moon was fixed and on that day the Nobles arrived bringing with them wine for sacrifice. The Professors gave a lecture each. At the close they sat down together to a feast. The Commander wanted to go but the Professors kept him, saying they

DAY.

would have their students to sing the deer song, and so they parted in high glee!

5. 禹生日 The Emperor Yü's birthday, B.C. 200 odd.

6. 長老誕 A birthday of a Buddhist god called the Elder.

8. 闍羅王誕 The birthday of Yama the chief judge of Hades.

六殿下城王誕 The birthday of the judge of the 6th Court of Hades.

9. 尹眞人飛昇 The Taoist saint Yin disappeared in a white cloud, A.D. 151.

10. 張道陵拜司空 Chang Tao Ling, the first Taoist Pope, made Minister of works A.D. 432. Celebrated in Foochow on the 13th.

土神誕 One of the gods of the five cardinal points. See 1 m. 10.

11. 麥生日 Wheat birthday, according to the country of Chia Ting in Kiangsu.

13. 長春節 Feast of Kiu Chang-chun, a celebrated Taoist in Shantung. The golden Tartars sent a Minister to the Shi Hia dynasty on the occasion in 1217. See 7 m. 12. Chang tao ling's birth at Foochow. See 10.

中央五道誕 The birthday of an evil deity Wu Tao. See 5 m. 8.

15. 散天香花 The Water Scripture Commentary speaks of the king and ministers leaving their home at night on this day and being met by the four heavenly kings when the air was full of devas scattering fragrant flowers from heaven.

醫靈大帝誕 Birthday of the great god of medicine.

玄壇誕 The Taoist Huen Tan's birthday who flourished about the end of the Yin dynasty.

說法 The chief Taoist god calls together all the gods and preaches to them.

16. 準提誕 The birthday of the Hindu goddes Chunti (Tdhundi Durga, Maritchi). See 5 m. 15; 12 m. 24.

DAY.

16. 玄壇趙元師誕 Birthday of Chao, one of the four Prime-ministers of the god Yü Hwang. See 6 m. 16.

17. 冊禮嶽瀆山海 In 751 the Emperor appointed the Eastern Sea to be ruled by the Dragon king Kwang Teh, the Southern Sea by Dragon king Kwang Li, the Western Sea by Dragon king Kwang Yün and the Northern Sea by Dragon king Kwang Tseh; they were to rule the mountains as well. Just as the Pope divided the world between Spain and Portugal.

18. 十哲坐像 This is the day in A.D. 720 when a Tutor memorialized to have 10 sitting images of the chief disciples of Confucius and the 72 disciples painted on the wall of the Confucian temple.

白龍生日 Birthday of the White Dragon. The people of Hing Fu in Chekiang, owing to thunder and white clouds often appearing on one of their mountains, call these white clouds the White Dragon.

后土娘娘誕 The goddess of Earth. See 5 m. 14.

中岳大帝誕 The birthday of the god of the Central Mountain who was 聞聘 Wên 'Ping, a general who fell in the struggle between the Yin and the Chou dynasties. See 2 m. 6.

三茅眞君誕 Festival in honour of three Taoist brothers of the southern suburbs of 威陽 Wei Yang who gave up early emoluments and became genii. See 10. m. 3.

23. 天后 The birthday of the Queen of Heaven, said to be a deified woman named Lin of the province of Fukien. See 2 m. 29.

25. 聖廟植圭 The sceptres of authority in the temple of Confucius at Kü fu hien in Shantung were formerly of wood, after A.D. 1009 they are to be of jade.

26. 子孫娘娘誕 A goddess petitioned for offspring.

27. 車大元師 Birthday of the celebrated god of war. Not much worshipped now. See 1 m. 2.

六毒大王誕 The festival of the six evil deities exercising

DAY.

their powers respectively over heaven, earth, year, month, day and hour.

27. 七殿大山王誕 The festival of the judge of the 7th Court of Hades.

28. 蒼頡字祖誕 The birthday of Tsang chieh, a minister of Fuhi, who invented Chinese characters. See 9 m. 18.

東嶽生 Birthday of god of Tai Shan, a mountain in Shantung, called also the Eastern one of the five great mountains. It is a posthumous title of one of the adherents of the Yin dynasty. See 2 m. 6.

FOURTH MOON.

In this moon sacrifices are made to the god of rain.

DAY.

1. 迎釋迦像 The image of Shikiamuni Buddha is carried out of the Pagoda all round the city of Kaifungfu, the capital of Honan, in order to ward off evil influences.

   八殿都市王誕 Feast of the judge of the 8th Court of Hades.

   蕭公誕 The festival of an ancient statesman probably 蕭伯軒, beloved by the good and hated by the evil.

4. 文殊菩薩 Wên Shu Pusa's birthday who is the chief god at Wutai in Shansi (Mandjusri).

7. 乘豹昇天 The Taoist saint Sze from Hêng Mountain ascended to heaven riding on a leopard.

8. 浴佛會 The ceremony of baptising Buddha. See 12 m. 8.

   佛生日 Shihkiamuni's birthday. See 2 m. 8.

   禮萬佛山 This was a present from the Sinlo country. It was called a mountain of myriad Buddhas because it had innumerable Buddhas beautifully carved and though the largest was only an inch high still so perfectly were they carved that one could see even their eyebrows. Different kinds of trees and buildings and lakes were also represented. There were about a thousand Buddhists at worship. Below there was a bell about 3 inches in size. Whenever this was struck the thousand Buddhists knelt and struck their heads against the ground. Sanscrit sounds were emitted by the bell and it shone on all around.

   三界誕 The festival of the three realms. (Trailokga).

   九殿平等王誕 The festival of the judge of the 9th Court of Hades.

DAY.

10. 五顯華光大帝 Festival of a god of fire and a Buddha (Eitel, Asvakarna). See 9 m. 9.

五方土神誕 Festival of one of the gods of the five cardinal points. See 1 m. 10.

許眞君誕 The birthday of the Taoist saint Hü.

11. 謁太廟 Sacrifice to first Ancestor in the Tang dynasty in the year A.D. 743.

13. 元中仙 The Taoist Professor Yuen Chung became immortal.

三皇降 The three Celestial Emperors descended.

14. 呂嵓 The famous Taoist Theologian, Lü Tung-pin, born A.D. 755 in Shansi, Pu Chow fu, Yung Lo hien. There was fragrance in the air, music in the sky and a white stork flew to his tent. He held office in Teh Hwa in modern Kiangsi. He is worshipped extensively throughout the Empire now under the name Chun Yang 純陽, the Pure Supreme Essence of the universe. Among the Taoists perhaps none have come nearer Christian truth than this author who lived near the time when Nestorians flourished in the same region of China. He is largely appealed to as the great physician who prescribes medicine at his temples to all the sick. His face used to be painted white, now it is forbidden to be so.

15. 雲房鍾離 Chung-li chuen a famous Taoist, 1st of the Eight Immortals, who is said to have transmitted the Taoist doctrines to Lü Tung-pin. But his descriptive names imply that his real name was different. He is described as one who refused to rely on power to teach his religion; who was *Tao* 道; who was the first great teacher of immortality and Lü tung-pin's king. See 14th day; 5 m. 18.

土地婆婆 Festival of the local goddess—Female Penates.

16. 天倉開 The rainy season begins when the monks retire to the mountains to study their religion.

17. 金花誕 Festival of the goddess of midwifery.

DAY.

十殿轉輪王誕 The festival of the judge of the 10th Court of Hades which regulates transmigration.

18. 碧霞元君誕 The Taoist saint Pih Hia's birthday.

華陀先師誕 The festival of Hwa To of the Han dynasty who was deified on account of his medical skill.

紫微大帝誕 The festival of the great ruler of the north pole constellation commemorates 姬 Chi the eldest son of King Wen 文 of the Chow dynasty. See 5. m. 15; 6. m. 6.

19. 祐聖夫人 Birthday of the lady guardian of Goodness. See 1 m. 13.

20. 眼光聖母誕 Festival of a female divinity who can cure eye diseases.

21. 葺太學講殿 A.D. 1044 the National College was enlarged. In the Han dynasty there were 1800 houses with 3000 students. In the Tang there were 1200 houses but in the Sung there were only 200 therefore the extension was necessary.

普賢誕 The Buddhist god Pu Hien's birthday. See 2 m. 22.

24. 諸天菩薩誕 Festival of the Buddhist saints (devas) of all the heavens, bestowers of children.

26. 鍾山蔣公誕 Birthday of a petty Mandarin from Yangchow who was slain by the rebels at the fall of the Han dynasty and was then deified under this name.

27. 雙光 A.D. 479 in the province of Haoling (?) there were noises heard in the air and two great lights which fell to the ground. One was like an ancient bell and the other — ; regarding them as belonging to the gods they were worshipped.

28. 藥王誕 The Great Physician's birthday, one of the Buddhist holy trio with Amitabha in the centre, called in Foochow 藥王菩薩. Supposed also by some to be 神農 Shên Nung.

鍾山蔣公誕. See 26.

FIFTH MOON.

In this moon sacrifices are made to the god of agriculture.

DAY.

1. 平仲節 The Taoist Ping Chung-chieh ascended to heaven riding on a Dragon in broad daylight, A.D. 345.
   南極大帝誕 The festival of the god of the Extreme South.
   瘟部五帝誕 Five Taoist gods who rule over summer diseases in Foochow. 1st to 5th day.
5. 端陽節 called also 地臘之辰 and 天中. The dragon boat festival.
8. 突厥祭神 The day when the Turks sent a minister to sacrifice to their gods in their ancient homes (A.D. 589-618).
   南方五道誕 Festival of one of the five evil spirits who causes various diseases in children. See 3 m. 13 : 8 m. 13.
10. 雙玉生 The Taoist saint Li Swang-Yü's birthday. He found the golden pill of immortality.
    五土龍神誕 Festival of the Dragon god, one of the five cardinal gods. See 1 m. 7.
11. 祭都城隍神 Sacrifice to the capital city god, Ching Hwang, ordered in the beginning of the Ming dynasty. See 7 m. 25.
12. 炳靈公誕 Festival of Ping Ling, son of the god of Taishan, called 黃天化 when statesman of the Chow dynasty. See 2 m. 6.
13. 龍生旦 In Yochow in Hunan it is said this is the day when the Dragon was born.
    關廟祭獻 Sacrifice to Kwanti the god of war. His horse's stature was 20 feet high and his long sword 80 catties in weight. See 6 m. 24.
    關平將軍誕 Festival of general Kwan Ping of the San Kuo period and son of Kwanti the god of war. See 5 m. 13.

DAY.

13. 鄧元師誕 Festival of a Taoist god of children.

14. 祠后土 In A.D. 1123 sacrifice to Earth. See 3 m. 18.

15. 拜莫北斗 Sacrifice to the Great Bear god. A.D. 1095.
準提佛母誕 Festival of the mother of the Hindu goddess Chunti. See 3 m. 16.

16. 天地合日 or 天地造化 This is the day when Heaven and Earth unite; men and women should keep apart on it.
如來佛誕 The birthday of one of the Yu lai Buddhas (Tathagata). See 6 m. 10; 11 m. 29.
張天師誕 The birthday of Chang 'Tien-shih, the first Taoist pope. His successors live in 龍虎山, the mountains of Lung Hu, in Kiangsi province. All his successors to this day must be of the same surname. 10 m. 20.

17. 玉隆觀 The Taoist Hü Sun-kü and his family, 42 persons in all, flew to heaven together. This was in A.D. 1112 at Hunchow in Kweichow.

18. 都散漢 The Taoist Chung Li. See 4 m. 15.
踏白石 The Taoist saint Yang Wên Kwang ascended to heaven stepping on white stones.
王母娘娘誕 The festival of the western mother goddess.

20. 丹陽馬眞人誕 The festival of Taoist saint Ma Tan Yang.

29. 許威顯王誕 Birthday of a statesman of the Tang dynasty who was deified.

SIXTH MOON.

DAY.

1. 韋馱誕 Birthday of Wei To god at the entrance of most Buddhist temples. Said also to be a statesman of the Chow dynasty.

   泗洲文佛誕 Festival of a Buddhist god much worshipped in Foochow.

3. 祭南海 A.D. 970 Sacrifice was made to the god of the Southern sea.

4. 南贍部洲轉法輪 The preaching of the law in the Buddhist Southern Iron Tree Continent. (Djambudvipa.)

6. 崔府君誕 T'sui Fu-kün's birthday. He was orginally from 祈州 'Chi Chow, a district magistrate and afterwards canonized as the local god of the earth. Said also to be one of the attendants in Hades who hurries on the judgments.

   泰山冥王誕 Festival of a King of Hades who gives judgment of life or death.

   揚四將軍天貺誕 Birthday of a man from the province of Kiangsi, deified for his filial piety.

   祀湘妃 Sacrifice to Emperor Yao's two daughters.

   北極生 Birthday of North Pole god. See 4 m. 18 ; 5 m. 15.

7. 瑤華帝君生 Birthday of Han Siang-tsze, one of the Eight Taoist genii.

8. 天書再見 In A.D. 1008 more revelations from Heaven seen in clouds and forests near Taishan in Shantung.

10. 金粟如來生 The Buddhist Kin Su Yu Lai's festival. See 5 m. 16.

    劉海仙 Birthday of the Taoist saint Liu Hai.

12. 井泉地脈龍神誕 Festival of the god of wells, fountains and subtle influences.

DAY.

13. 魯班先師誕 The festival of the god of carpenters. See 12 m. 20.

14. 天慶觀 In A.D. 1163 the Emperor on ascending the throne went to pray to Heaven and Earth, Ancestors and the Spirits of the Empire, at Tien King Kwan.

15. 東華帝君生 The Taoist saint Tung Hwa's birthday.
東封雅樂 In A.D. 741 the music at Tai Shan for the gods of Heaven and spirits of Earth was regulated.

16. 靈官王天君誕 A Taoist divinity, Prime-minister to Yü Hwang. See 3. m. 16.

19. 白衣現觀音誕 The white-robed Kwan Yin, the Goddess of mercy, appeared. The god of music (Weights and Measures) appeared in the sky and said that Heaven had called for music and commanded the god to rain heavily on the 20th. The farmers hastened to get in their wheat and it did rain heavily on the 20th. The Emperor hearing of it ordered the worship of the god of music.

20. 律呂神 The god of music.

22. 協惠將軍誕 Festival of a Taoist god who guards children and shoots the celestial dog; worshipped in Foochow.
湘陰鐘 In A.D. 989 a bell was discovered in Hunan, Changsha fu, Hsing Yin hien, with 83 words which could not be read.

23. 馬鳴王誕 The festival of the Buddhist saint Ma Ming (Ashvagosha) the founder of the Mahayana school who lived in the first century of the Christian era.

24. 關聖帝君誕 Festival to Kwanti the god of war. See 5 m. 13.
火神誕 The festival of the god of fire who is said to have been orginally 羅宣 Lo Süan, a Taoist sage and supporter of the Yin dynasty. See 4 m. 10.
王靈官誕 Festival of a Taoist god.
馬王誕 Festival of the god of horses.

DAY.

五雷祖師 The birthday of the god of thunder. His chief temple is in the province of Kwangtung where a woman of that district found an egg more than a foot around and carried it home. One day it split with a noise like thunder and liberated a child. Her fellow townsmen erected a temple to commemorate the prodigy and the place is called 雷州府, Lui Chou fu.

和合張柳仙誕 Fête of the 3 brothers, genii of peace 太平府.

26. 二郎神楊眞君誕 Birthday of the nephew of the supreme god Yü Hwang.

清凉仙 The Taoist saint Ching Liang's birthday.

29. 天樞左相誕 Festival of 韓昇 Han Sheng, a minister of the last days of the Yin dynasty who was deified as god of one of the constellations.

回鶻摩尼 The Manicheans (?) of Ouigur country had in A.D. 806 a temple built for them with a tablet 大雲光明寺 in the capital.

SEVENTH MOON.

In this moon the Tang dynasty sacrificed to the god of long life and the Liang dynasty offered first fruits.

DAY.

1. 太上老君誕 Festival of the death (?) of Lautsz. See 12 m. 16.
   奏四庫書 In A.D. 836, a catalogue of books was made and the old and new numbered 56,476 volumes.
6. 十科 In A.D. 1086, the ten subjects of examinations were appointed, viz: 1. Practice of righteousness, 2. Self-control, 3. Courage, 4. Intelligence, 5. Acquaintance with the classics, 6. Extensive learning, 7. Style, 8. Law, 9. Finance, 10. Government.
7. 西王母至 In the time of Emperor Han Wu, B. C. 140-86, when the Emperor was at worship a bird flew from the West. The Emperor asked his officer what bird it was. He replied the queen of Western Heaven is about to come to visit you, make ready. That very night she appeared.
   上元夫人 The queen of the Western Heavens came with a thousand heavenly hosts attending her. She sent for the chief lady and gave her a map of all the mountains. But the lady answered "unless I have the proper charms it is no use." Upon this the Queen of Heaven ordered her heavenly attendants to fetch these all-powerful charms and give them to her; after which she was asked to control all the hosts of heaven and imps of earth.
   緱山乘鶴 The Taoist saint Wang Tsz Kiao is said to have become immortal, riding on a white stork.
   陶安公騎龍 The Taoist saint Tao An-kung rides off to immortality on a red dragon.
   寫陰符經 A. D. 441 Hwangti's *Yin Fu king* was received. It contains 300 sentences—100 about religion, 100 about

DAY.

7. stratagems, and 100 about plans. The first is about the one fountain among the gods, the second is how to pacify the people and enrich the nation, the third is about military matters. By reading it seven times on a day which is of the same name as one's birth-year life will be prolonged.

牛郎織女 The Niu lang and the Chi Nü stars cross the milkyway and meet.

魁星 The birthday of the god of literature. He grasps in his hand a vermillion pencil. See 2 m. 3.

康公誕 A local deity of the Yellow river.

七夕節 Seven nights festival in Foochow.

嬪官仙根誕 Festival of the ladies of the celestial palace. They contend this night for skill in needlework.

斗母元君 or 七星奶誕 The festival of the original lady of the Great Bear constellation (Durga?). See 8 m. 15.

柏姬娘娘誕 Birthday of a daughter of a provincial governor of the Yuen dynasty who was deified as a Taoist goddess.

9. 樂名大安 In A. D. 102, there were 89 pieces of music sung and played in the imperial service, 75 of the pieces had "Peace" as part of their titles.

12. 長春眞人誕 Birthday of the famous Taoist Chang 'Chun of Chihia county in Têngchowfu in Shantung, who lived in the Yuen dynasty. See 3 m. 13.

15. Shihkiamuni according to the history of the After Han dynasty was conceived in B. C. 687. But this was before comparative study fixed it nearer the time of Confucius. See 2 m. 8.

Sacrifice to the hungry ghosts 盂蘭會 (Yu lan Hui). Mu Lien 目蓮, one of the greatest of Shihkiamuni's disciples and greatest of all miracle workers, called together the monks to unite in presenting all sorts of fruit in sacrifice in order to save his mother from the round of births. After that it has become a universal custom to scatter all sorts of eatables

DAY.

15. among the many thousands who come to scramble for them. But this throwing of food among the crowds is said to be for the benefit of hungry ghosts. (Ullambana).

集福世界 The two great Taoist gods Tai Shang Lao Kùn and Yuen Shih tien tsun together bless the world.

中元節 The festival to the second of the three Taoist originals. See 1 m. 9.

靈濟眞君誕 Birthday of 張渤 'Chang Po of 武陵 Wu ling who was made a Taoist god.

三官聖母誕 Festival of the mother of the three 元 Yüan See 1 m. 9.

18. 玉母誕 The birthday of the Heavenly Queen of the West (Shi Wang Mu).

19. 賢却千佛生 Beginning of the kalpa of the sages during which 1000 Buddhas will appear.

當年太歲誕 Festival of the ruling deity of 1871, 殷郊 Yin Chiao, a general of the Emperor 紂 Chou of the Yin dynasty. There are 60 ruling deities one for each year of the cycle.

21. 普庵祖師 Birthday of he Buddhist Patriarch Pu An. He lived in the Sung dynasty. See 11 m. 27.

22. 梁生芝 In A.D. 761 the plant of immortality was found growing on one of the palace beams and all ministers come to present it with songs.

財帛星君誕 Festival to the god of riches.

張眞君誕 A Taoist god Chang's festival.

23. 齊天大聖王誕 Festival of a great god, peer of Heaven.

24. 祓童會 In Lanki hsien in Kin Hwa fu in Chekiang there is a gathering of boys and girls led by their elders to the temple to worship; they scatter paper and beat cymbals for three days.

都城隍誕 Festival to the city god Ching Huang which has a temple in every city in the Empire. See 5 m. 11.

奠仙誕 Birthday of a Taoist saint 安期, An 'Chi of Kuang chou.

DAY.

23. 龍樹大王誕 Festival of the famous Buddhist patriarch Nagarguna, one of the founders of the Mahayava School.

許佔眞君誕 Festival of a Taoist worthy named Hü. See 8 m. 1.

27. Sacrifice to the god of wind and rain according to the Tang dynasty.

30. 地藏王誕 The Buddhist god Ti Tsang's birthday [Yama ?]. Incense and candles are burnt on the ground and in lanterns on the water.

EIGHTH MOON.

On the first 丁 day of this moon sacrifice is made to Confucius.

DAY.

1. Sacrifice to the founders of medicine e.g. Hwangti and Ki Peh.

   許眞君誕 Fête of a Taoist worthy named 遜 Sun of Nan-changfu, capital of Kiangsi province.

   金甲神君誕 Festival of the Golden Armour Worthy.

   社王誕 Festival to the local deities or gods of the land.

3. 灶君誕 The kitchen god's birthday. He is also called 長單 Changtan.

   北斗下降誕 Feast of the incarnation of the Great Bear itself. He is also called 黃天祥 Huang Tien Seang (High Heaven's good favour) who died while supporting the Yin dynasty. See 12 m. 15.

5. 千秋節 The millenium feast established in A.D. 729 when all the ministers of state were feasted. The higher ones of 4th rank and upwards were presented with gold mirrors. There was music and 104 horses dancing to it. These feasts were repeated on the Emperor's birthday.

   雷聲大帝誕 Festival of 聞仲 Wên Chung, prime minister of the last King of the Yiu dynasty and who died in defence of it.

10. 北岳大帝誕 Festival of the Northern Mountain god. He was 崔英 Tsui Ying, a general who died in the struggle of the Yin and Chou dynasties. See 2 m. 6.

13. 西方五道誕 A festival of an evil deity. See 3 m. 13.

15. 臨水陳太后誕 Festival of the popular Taoist goddess of midwifery.

DAY.

15. 姜氏王后誕 Festival of the wife of the last Emperor of the Yin dynasty.

中秋節 Festival of middle autumn.

斗母元君誕 Festival of the original lady of the Great Bear constellation. See 7 m. 7. (Maritchi) Some say she is the same as 準提 (Durga).

伽藍爺誕 A Buddhist festival observed in Foochow.

16. 齊天大聖誕 A Buddhist festival in honour of 鬪戲勝佛.

朱元師誕 Festival to a Celestial Warrior Chu, born in 崑崙山.

17. 澤苗半天五顯公誕 Festival to a recent popular divinity.

18. 酒仙誕 This feast is claimed for several:—

杜康 She kang, the inventor of wine,

劉伶 Liu ling of the Chin dynasty, and

李白 Li pai of the Tang dynasty.

The last two tumbled into the water when drunk and were drowned; the latter is also noted for having been able to read Corean characters which no one else could.

22. 造禮神 In 1084 two tablets were set up for the worship of land and grain, *i.e.*, the Commonwealth.

燃燈佛. (Dipamkara?) Buddha or Creator of light.

23. 田元師誕 Taoist god of play-actors and sport generally.

24. 灑馬奶子 In the Yuen dynasty on this day once a year mare's milk was sprinkled. At worship they used one horse, 8 gelded rams, 9 pieces of silk, 9 fleeces of white sheep's wool and 3 sable furs. The Mongol priests together with other Mongols and Chinese scholars and 4 high officials led them in worship calling upon Heaven and their ancestor Genghis Khan, and saying "we look for blessing and protection to the Emperor of Heaven." After the ceremony was over the offerings were divided among the worshippers.

國學觀禮 In 807 the most intelligent doctors of literature were commanded to lecture in the national college and the mandarins to attend.

DAY.

24. 陶治先師誕 Tao yeh, the god of potters.

25. 太陽星君誕 A god who was formerly 徐蓋 Sü Kai, a minister of Yin dynasty.

26. 壽星現 The day of the appearance of the star of longevity, according to the Taoists to be kept as a fast. (Mercury?)

27. 孔子生 Confucius's birthday. See 11 m. 4.

28. 祭馬神 Sacrifice to the god of horses. See 2 m. 22.

29. 夜香 According to the Taoists this is the end of the great *Yin* Moon and the moon should be worshipped at night 40 li to the north of Tungchow by the master of the Imperial stud.

NINTH MOON.

In this moon the Buddhists order a fast for 15 days.

DAY.

1. 南斗下降 The god of the southern constellation who descends on this day to control the death of man. See 11 m. 23.

   講仁王經 In A.D. 765 a hundred high seats were got ready in two temples to expound the doctrines of the Scriptures of the King of love.

2. 朝眞 The Taoists worship the Eternal in all things.

3. 五瘟聖誕 A god who originally was called 呂岳 Lü Yo when he was a Taoist priest.

5. 無碍會 Assembly of the delivered (Buddhist); a sort of atonement day when the people brought gold vessels to float the Shie Li (Buddhist light-emitting relics and life-producing emblems) in the time of Emperor Wu of the Liang dynasty (A.D. 502-550). Small relics did not shine. After the Emperor had prostated himself some tens of times light appeared in his vessel. After this the Emperor fixed the 5th day of the 8th moon for an assembly of the delivered when another relic should be brought out for worship. He ordered the prince and earls to meet the relics and symbols in order to worship them. Those who came to see were between 700,000 and 800,000 people!

   選樂工 A.D. 963, musicians to the number of 830 were chosen by the court of Sacrificial worship.

6. 陳賜樂書 A.D. 1101 a large work on music in 200 chapters was presented to the Throne.

DAY.

6. 祀明堂 Sacrifice to Heaven by the State in the Sung dynasty, fixed in A.D. 1040.

8. 程君友昇仙 In Hsiao Chi county in Tung Chwan fu in Szechuen, a man Chêng Kün Yeu met a Taoist priest who said he looked like one of the immortals; thereupon the priest opened his bag and gave him a pill and said, "when hungry and thirsty eat the leaves and fruit of the arbor vitae and swallow them." Chêng Kün Yeu wanted to follow him and live like a hermit, but the Taoist said, "go home now till we meet again on the 8th day of the 9th moon." Chêng Kün Yeu burnt incense made of arbor vitae leaves and fruit till he had eaten those of four or five trees without any result. But on the 8th day, 9th moon a great light appeared on the rock under the arbor vitae tree in which Chêng Kün Yeu ascended.

9. 拜天射柳 Worship of Heaven and shooting willows in the first year of the Golden Tartar's time and yearly afterwards.

避邪廷壽 The dogroot keeps harm away, the Chrysanthemum prolongs life.

雲臺降 Chang Tao-ling when he first went to Szechuen lived at the mountain Ho Ming where he studied alchemy and religion and was rewarded by God presenting him with secret charms and spells. In A.D. 157 he and his wife ascended to heaven together from the peak called Yün Fêng Tai. He was then 123 years old. See 1 m. 15.

泰山康都統誕 The deified general Kang of Taishan in Shantung; worshipped in Foochow. See 10 m. 15.

九使公爺誕 Taoist god of courtesans.

五顯華光大帝誕 Five Taoist divinities one of which is regarded as god of thieves. See 4 m. 10.

重陽節 A festival. Kite flying season.

關帝飛升 Festival to commemorate the apotheosis of Kwanti, the god of war.

DAY.

9. 酆都大帝誕 A man of Fêng Tu in Szechuen who was appointed one of the rulers of Hades.

11. 進西漢會要 The Dictionary of the Western Han was presented in A.D. 1211 in 17 books under 15 headings and 367 different articles.

顏子復聖誕 The birthday of Yen tsû, a disciple of Confucius.

12. A.D. 1419 on the night of the day when the Buddhist classics were presented to the temple of Pao-Un a radiant light shone from the pagoda called Shie li light. See 9 m. 5.

15. 朱文公生 Birthday of Chu Fu tsz, the celebrated Confucian Commentator; born in Yenpingfu in Fukien in A.D. 1130.

玄壇誕 Huan tan festival in honour of 道公明, a Taoist sage of the Yin dynasty.

16. 機神誕 The god of looms.

17. 資治通鑑 In A.D. 1128 the 4th volume of the Standard History of China was presented to the throne.

增福神 The birthday of the god who increases blessings.

洪仙誕 Birthday of the Taoist saint Hung.

金龍四大王誕 One of the lords of the four great seas, north, south, east and west, or 4 demon kings who guard the world against Asuras (Tchatur Maharadjas).

招財童子誕 A god of wealth who was formerly 喬有明 'Chiao Yu-ming in the service of the Yin dynasty.

18. 葛洪眞君誕 Festival of Kuo Hung who continued the work of Tsang Chieh the inventor of characters. See 3 m. 28.

23. 華嚴現 The day on which Kwan Yin appeared in the Hwa Yen Sea. See 12 m. 29.

薩眞人誕 Who was originally a Taoist of 西河 Si Ho in Szechuen.

25. 大饗明堂 A. D. 1050 the Sung Emperor offered sacrifices in the Ming Tang and then sacrificed to his ancestors in the Tai Miao.

27. 清源生誕 The Taoist saint Ching Yuen's birthday.

DAY.

28. 華光誕 The god who protects from fire. Formerly he was a necromancer named 馬靈 Ma ling.

馬元帥 Ma, one of the eight celestial generals.

30. 瑠璃佛生 Birthday of Buddha of the Crystal sea.

TENTH MOON.

DAY.

1. 東皇大帝誕 Jupiter's festival.
   歲臘 One of the great festivals of the Taoists to propitiate 36,000 evil spirits, attending on which forgiveness may be obtained and life prolonged. (A sort of day of atonement).
2. 紫璃生 The Taoist saint Tze Ching's birthday.
   固大將軍誕 A deity who was once a general of Chi country in Shantung.
3. 龍聚日 Meeting of all the Dragons of the three great Original gods in the four oceans.
   三第眞君誕 Three Taoist brothers who became genii on the same day. See 3 m. 18.
4. 十眞現 The day of the appearance of ten immortals.
   神僧預座 A.D. 460 the Empress Dowager visited one of the temples where she had put up an image of *Pu hien* on a white elephant. Suddenly when surrounded with priests and attendants a priest went forward and sat before them like a god. All were astonished at his beauty and soon they all were convinced that he was a Buddha appearing to them.
5. 達摩祖師誕 Bodhidharma, the last Indian Patriarch, who came to China and died A. D. 529. His body rests in 寶光寺, a monastery two miles west of Canton.
6. 天曹諸師誕 Festival to all the teachers in heaven.
8. 白角錢 A. D. 818 Chang Yu a doctor of literature lived in Singan fu. One evening he noticed the court yard full of strange fragrance and some men in dark clothes leading 7 or 8 young and beautiful girls; he pushed the gate open

DAY.

and said "let us picnic here." Suddenly there was a full choir of musicians and they sang beautifully and played on stringed and wind instruments. Chang Yu on hearing them cried out, "If they are not witch-foxes they must be devils." At this sound all vanished. But he managed to seize one of their wine cups which he tied to his clothes. In the morning he found it was a white horn cup.

10. 西天王降 Birthday of the king of the Western heaven.

12. 乘麒麟 A woman Shie Tsz Jen when she became immortal was called away by an angel riding on a *Ki lin* and they flew away riding on a thousand storks.

15. 校定罪福 Taoist day of judgment.

下元水官 Birthday of the Taoist god of water. One of the three original gods. See 1 m. 9: 7 m. 15.

泰山溫都絲 or 渴元師誕 General Wên, a deified assistant at Tai Shan in Shantung. See 9 m. 9.

痘神劉使誕 A small-pox god. Originally 余北龍 a minister of the last days of Yin dynasty who with his five sons lost their lives in its cause.

床頭花公姿誕 This idol is worshipped under the bed for the protection of children.

16. 盤古水生 Birthday of Panku, the first man.

巫山娘娘誕 A female deity, worshipped by husband and wife.

19. 食經日 Assembly of the 500 Lohans to preach the Law.

20. 虛淨天師誕 The seventh descendant of Chang Tao-ling who made some pills of immortality and ascended to heaven at noon day. His dog and fowls happened to eat some too and they also entered heaven with their master! See 5 m. 16.

21. 飲福宴 A. D. 1013, Feast of Happiness, when the Emperor and the great ministers visited the temples and pronounced forgiveness on all subjects.

DAY.

26. 五岳大帝誕 The gods of the five great mountains of China who died fighting the same day and fell by the hand of the same man, 張奎 Chang Kwei. See 2 m. 6.

27. Ruler of the North Pole constellation. Same as 4 m. 18.

30. 馬前威勇周大將軍誕 A general of the Three Kingdoms.

ELEVENTH MOON.

Worship of Heaven according to the Han dynasty. In the Sung dynasty it was made the time to worship Confucius.

DAY.

4. 孔子先師誕 Birthday of Confucius. See 8 m. 27.
   張仙誕 A god of children who defends them by shooting the heavenly dog with bullets.
6. 玉皇大帝誕 The festival of Yu-huang the chief Taoist god.
   西岳大帝誕 God of the Western Mountain who was a general named 蔣雄 Chiang hiung in the Yin dynasty and died fighting for it. See 2 m. 6.
   太乙救苦天尊誕 A divinity worshipped for relief in suffering. Also the winter solstice 冬至.
10. King Yu Ching's birthday.
12. A.D. 701, gems of the three religions collected in 1300 chapters. The Sung dynasty day for sacrificing to the Yellow river god.
17. 十八阿羅漢 The 18 Lohans (arhats) introduced to bless men. Men and women on their birthdays go to them for a blessing.
    阿彌陀誕 Amitabha's birthday; once a great day in Singanfu.
19. 九連菩薩 Kiu Lien Pusa's birthday and Kwan Yin's appearance on this day.
23. 送子張仙誕 A saint named Chang who bestows children.
    南斗星君下降 God of the south pole descends to earth. See 9 m. 1.
    珠嫣劉夫人誕 A popular goddess of small-pox.
26. 十方五道誕 Festival to all the gods everywhere (N.,S.,E.,W., N.E., S.W., S.E., N.W., Zenith and Nadir). 五道滅惡

DAY.

is the name of the Recording Angel who stands on the left of Yama in the 5th court of Hades. See 3 m. 13.

27. 普菴祖師 The Patriarch Pu-an's birthday (also 7 m. 21).

29. 日光天子誕 Festival to Light, the son of God!

如來佛誕 Festival of one of the Yu Lai Buddhas. See 5 m. 16.

TWELFTH MOON.

In this moon a dog (called a yellow sheep) is sacrificed to the Kitchen god.

DAY.

1. 蓬萊會 Festival of the assembly of the 8 Taoist genii on the fairy island of Pêng Lai.

8. 浴佛 Baptising Buddha. The Parable Scripture says Buddha subdued six legions. These confessed themselves worthy of death but said, "may Buddha with the water of the Law wash away the impurity of our hearts." Now we beg the monks to bathe and wash away impurity of the body and have it as a constant symbol of the purifying of the heart. This is an old custom in the west but was introduced to China in this way. See 4 m. 8.

七寶粥 This is the day when Buddha discovered the truth in the Lotus Pool. The priests feast on bowls of gruel made of earth-nuts, walnuts, mint etc., altogether seven precious things.

9. 神光立雪 A man named Shin Kwang li hsüeh having heard of the Great Buddhist Patriarch Ta Mo at Siao Lin went to study religion under him. But Ta Mo sat in meditation with his face to the wall without teaching him anything. One evening heavy snow fell and Shin Kwang never moved till the snow was above his knees. At last he took a sharp knife and cut off his right arm. When Ta Mo saw this he was convinced of his earnestness and gave him a new name, viz., Shin Kwang li hsüeh, i.e. Divine light stands the snow.

15. 北斗星君誕 The Taoist god of the Great Bear constellation who presides over longevity. See 8 m. 3.

DAY.

15. 溫元師誕 One of the celestial generals, a man of 東歐 of the Han dynasty.

16. 脫舊災迎新福 Every year in the Mongol dynasty the Emperor and Empresses bound themselves from head to foot with black and white woollen thread in their bed room. The Mongol priests read Mongol incantations, took a silver incense pot in which they burnt chaff mixed with butter and oil and with this they singed the imperial personages' woollen threads till they broke. These broken threads were thrown into the censer along with red cotton threads, some inches in length, which the Emperor tore into bits and threw them together into the fire three times. After that they put off their clothes and presented themselves to the priests. The ceremony was called putting off calamities and putting on blessings.

南岳大帝誕 Taoist god of the Southern Mountain. This was the posthumous title of 宗黑虎 Tsung Hei-hu, a general of the Yin dynasty. See 2 m. 6.

太上老君誕 Another festival of Laotsz. See 7 m. 1.

20. 魯班先師誕 Another festival of the god of mechanics or carpenters. See 6 m. 13. 9 m. 16.

21. 多寶佛生 Birthday of the Buddha of many precious things who lives in space far to the East in the spritual mountain of the Precious and Pure realm. Worshipped by some on the 3rd of each moon.

天龍上帝誕 The Celestial Dragon Lord.

22. 王喜生 The birthday of the Taoist saint Wang Ki. His mother conceived him after she had a strange dream. 24 moons after the dream Wang was born, A.D. 1130. He grew up a fine man. In 1159 he said, "Confucius at 40 had no doubts, Mencius at 40 had obtained satisfaction, but I am still tossed about and foolish." After this he studied Taoism. From 48 years old and onward he only

DAY.

associated with the followers of Lü Tung Pin. See 4 m. 14.

24. 灶君朝天 The god of the kitchen ascends to heaven.

接玉皇 Reception of the chief Taoist god Yu Hwang who comes down to examine human conduct.

三清會 The festival of the three Pure Ones of Taoism.

準提佛母誕 The mother of the god Durga. See 3 m. 16.

25. 老子度關 Lao tsz going through the Pass. In the first year of Chow, Yin Hi waited for Lao tsz at the Pass. He came riding in a light cart drawn by a black ox. On seeking instruction from the sage, Lao tsz gave him the *Tao Teh King* and passed on going Westward.

27. 太極觀 A.D. 1017 the Emperor sent his Prime Minister Wang Tan to Yen Chow fu to present a seal and a book to the Taoist temple Tai Ki Kuan.

29. 華嚴生 Birthday of the goddess Hwa Yen (Padma byûha). See 9 m. 23.

北斗下降 The god of the Great Bear descends.

30. 贊祝火神 Sacrifice to the god of fire in the Liao dynasty. On New year's eve at dawn of day the Emperor surrounded by many followers went to the temple of the god of fire and threw salt and mutton fat into the furnace while the wizards and their chief pronounced incantations in praise of the god in turns. When this was over and the doors were closed one of the mandarins recited the praises while the Emperor prostated himself twice before the fire. See 9 m. 28.

醉司命 On New year's eve Buddhist and Taoist priests are invited to read prayers and see the kitchen god off. Wine and fruit are provided. Malt is rubbed on the kitchen lintel in order to make the kitchen god drunk and unable to report the evils of the year!

迎送六神 In the Emperor Hiao Tsung's time (A.D. 1163-1190) every house took paper coin (cash) of all colours and with

DAY.

wine and fruit sent off the old six gods and received the new six gods. These are said to be the kitchen god, door god, home god, road god, and salvation god.

30. 跨熏 *Passing through the fire.* Fires of cypress, arbor vitae, peach, and apricot trees are made; the fire is called the Living Brazier and Hope Brazier. All the family jump over the fire so as to burn away the year's calamities and begin afresh.

四天赦 There are four great religious festivals which are called Tien Shie, i.e., Heavenly grace or a sort of forgiveness or atonement days and are said to have been originated in the Yuen dynasty (A.D. 1260-1368). These are

January 12,
April 1,
June 16,
October 27.

On these days many old people go to the Buddhist temples for forgiveness.

諸佛下界察民間善惡 All the Buddhas descend to earth to examine the good and evil deeds of men.

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